

Governance of BIODEV2030 Project in Guyana

Body 1: PROJECT WORKING GROUP of BIODEV2030 PROJECT

Description and role

The Project Working Group (PWG) in Guyana serves as a coordinating mechanism to support the implementation of the BIODEV2030 Project. The Group comprises representatives from government, civil society, academia, private sector, and community organisations. The PWG came into effect at the first meeting of the Group on Thursday April 29, 2021. Meetings will be statutorily held on the last Thursday every two (2) months unless specific meetings are requested by the consultants during diagnosis and dialogue phases over the period May 2021 to November 2021.

WWF Guianas was identified to serve in the capacity of Chair for the PWG and can also invite one (1) or more representatives as guests to participate in a specific working group meeting based on their qualifications to discuss specific agenda item (s). The current composition of the PWG may expand to include representatives after the selection of key economic sectors for the National Synthesis Assessment. The Group will also expand upon the conclusion and validation of the National Synthesis Assessment to include representatives from the two (2) prioritized sectors that have significant impacts on biodiversity in Guyana.

Responsibilities of the Project Working Group

1. Provide support to the Consultants to validate the selection and recommendation of economic sectors to be studied in the National Synthesis Assessment.
2. Provide technical guidance to WWF Guianas and the consultants on specific matters, if needed, to shape the process of the project.
3. Provide technical guidance, including facilitating access to information/data/networks, if possible, in the execution of the two (2) studies (National Synthesis Assessment & Sector Characterization Assessment) on pressures/threats on biodiversity and drivers of loss and national context analysis.
4. Support and validate the prioritization process of two (2) key economic sectors for the in-depth sector characterization analysis.
5. Participate in the stakeholder engagement processes, including any multi-sectoral sessions with focal agencies.
6. Review and provide input on the draft National Synthesis Assessment, Sector Characterization Reports and National Context Analysis submitted by the consultants and WWF Guianas.
7. Support the process of developing voluntary multi-sectoral commitments for the two (2) prioritized economic sectors.
8. Provide periodic updates, through WWF Guianas, to community representatives on the process and results of the project.

Composition

The current list of organisations represented on the Project Working Group are¹:

1. WWF Guianas (Chair)
2. Conservation International – Guyana
3. Environmental Protection Agency
4. Guyana Forestry Commission
5. Guyana Manufacturing Services Association
6. Guyana Tourism Authority
7. National Toshias Council
8. Private Sector Commission
9. Small Business Bureau
10. South Rupununi District Council
11. University of Guyana - Faculty of Natural Sciences

Body 2: COLLABORATION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Description and role

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the national agency with a mandate to promote, facilitate and coordinate effective environmental management and protection, and sustainable use of Guyana's natural resources. The EPA has been designated the Focal Point for the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) since it is the main agency in Guyana entrusted with ensuring biodiversity conservation and meeting the obligations under the UNCBD. WWF Guianas has developed a collaborative approach with the EPA to implement the BIODEV2030 project in Guyana, in particular, to use of the information generated from the studies towards meeting Guyana's national commitments under the UNCBD, including informing the country's position to develop the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and actions related to the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).

Composition

1. BIODEV 2030 Project Manager - WWF Guianas – Guyana Office
2. UNCBD Focal Point - Environmental Protection Agency

¹ This Group will expand based on the sectors selected for the National Synthesis Assessment and Sector Characterization Analysis.



Body 3: BIODEV2030 WWF IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

Description and role

This informal group within WWF Guianas support the implementation of the BIODEV2030 project and execution of activities. It allows for alignment with the wider WWF Guianas programme and effective implementation. This group meets on an as needs basis allowing for updates and strategic guidance.

Composition

1. WWF Guianas – Guyana Office Country Manager
2. Finance and Admin Manager/Accountant (Guyana Office)
3. Landscape Coordinator
4. Communications Officer
5. BIODEV2030 Project Manager